

Amendment to the Drawings

Kindly substitute newly presented Figures 1, 4-9, and 13-16 for originally filed Figures 1, 4-9, and 13-16.

A set of annotated sheets of the amended drawings is provided for the examiner's convenience.

In Fig. 1, numeral 60 has been added on the left side pointing to the edge of the clip.

In Fig 4, numeral 60 has been added to the right side pointing to the edge of the clip.

In Fig. 5, at the bottom, numeral 2' has been canceled.

In Fig. 6 on the left, numeral 30 has been added. In Fig. 6, on the right, the lead line for numeral 34 now points to the side edge of the connecting tape.

In Fig. 7, on the right, numeral 34 has been changed to numeral 36.

In Fig. 8, numeral 40 has been canceled.

In Fig. 9, the change of line thickness of the intermediate securing device has been changed to more clearly identify this part.

In Fig. 14, on the bottom, numeral 34 has been canceled.

In Fig. 16, at the top, numeral 34 has been canceled.

REMARKS

The claims now in the case are claims 1-5 and 7-12.

Claims 1-5 and 9-11 stand withdrawn from consideration as being directed to non-elected species. Original independent claim 6 has been canceled and replaced by claim 12. The claims under consideration are claims 7, 8, and 12.

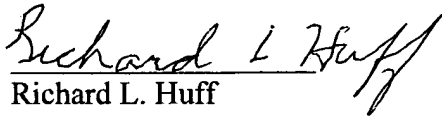
The drawings were objected to for the reasons set forth on pages 2 and 3 of the Office Action. Replacement drawings are being presented with this response, which drawing are considered to overcome the objections stated by the examiner.

The specification was objected to for the reasons set forth on pages 4 and 5 of the Office Action. Paragraph 63 is currently amended in an effort to overcome the examiner's objections. No objectionable new matter is introduced as the amended paragraph finds adequate basis in original paragraph 63 and the drawings as originally filed. In this amendment, the terms "width" and "length" present uniform directions for all of the parts to simplify understanding of the invention. This change in terminology is not considered to be objectionable new matter as the parts and their relationship to each other remain the same.

Original claims 6-8 were rejected as failing to comply with the second paragraph of 35 USC 112 for the reasons set forth on pages 6 and 7 of the Office Action. Original claim 6 has been canceled and replaced by new claim 12. Claim 12 sets forth the parts of the device, the relative dimensions of the parts, and the relationships of the parts in the assembled device. It is considered that any ambiguity has been eliminated and withdrawal of this rejection is solicited.

The application is considered to be in condition for a complete action on the merits and an early and favorable action on the merits is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Richard L. Huff". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Richard L. Huff

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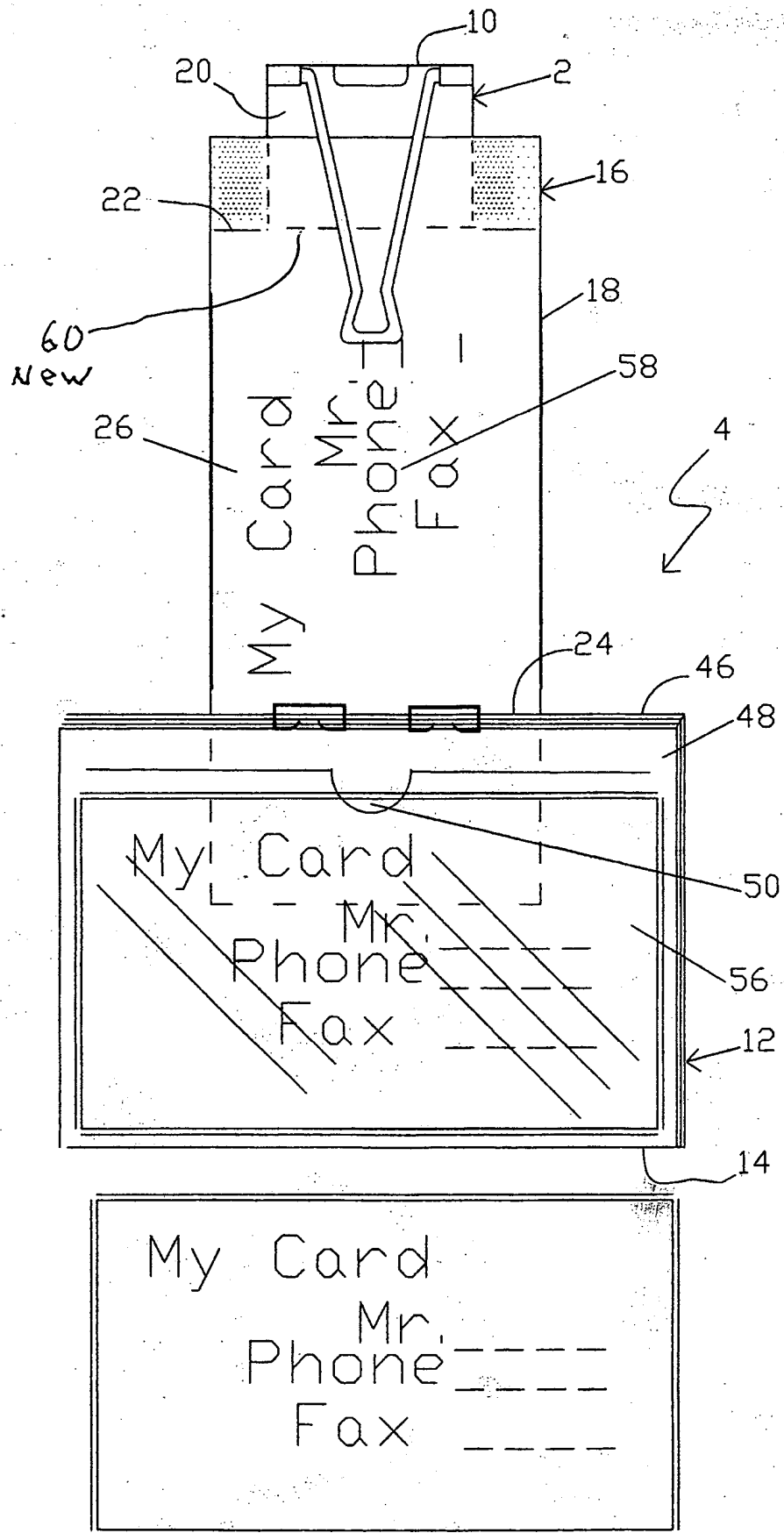


Fig. 1

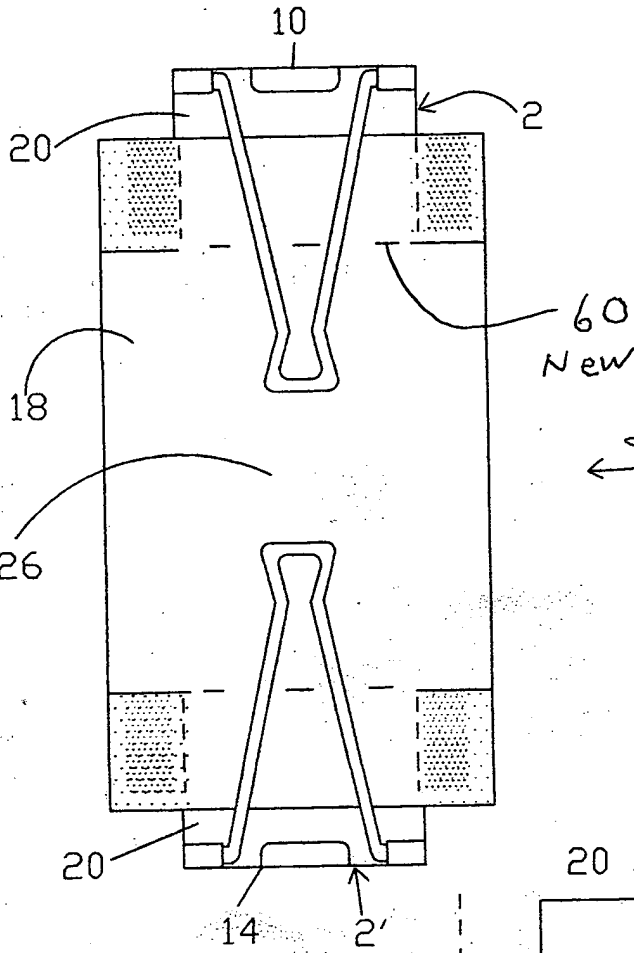


Fig. 4

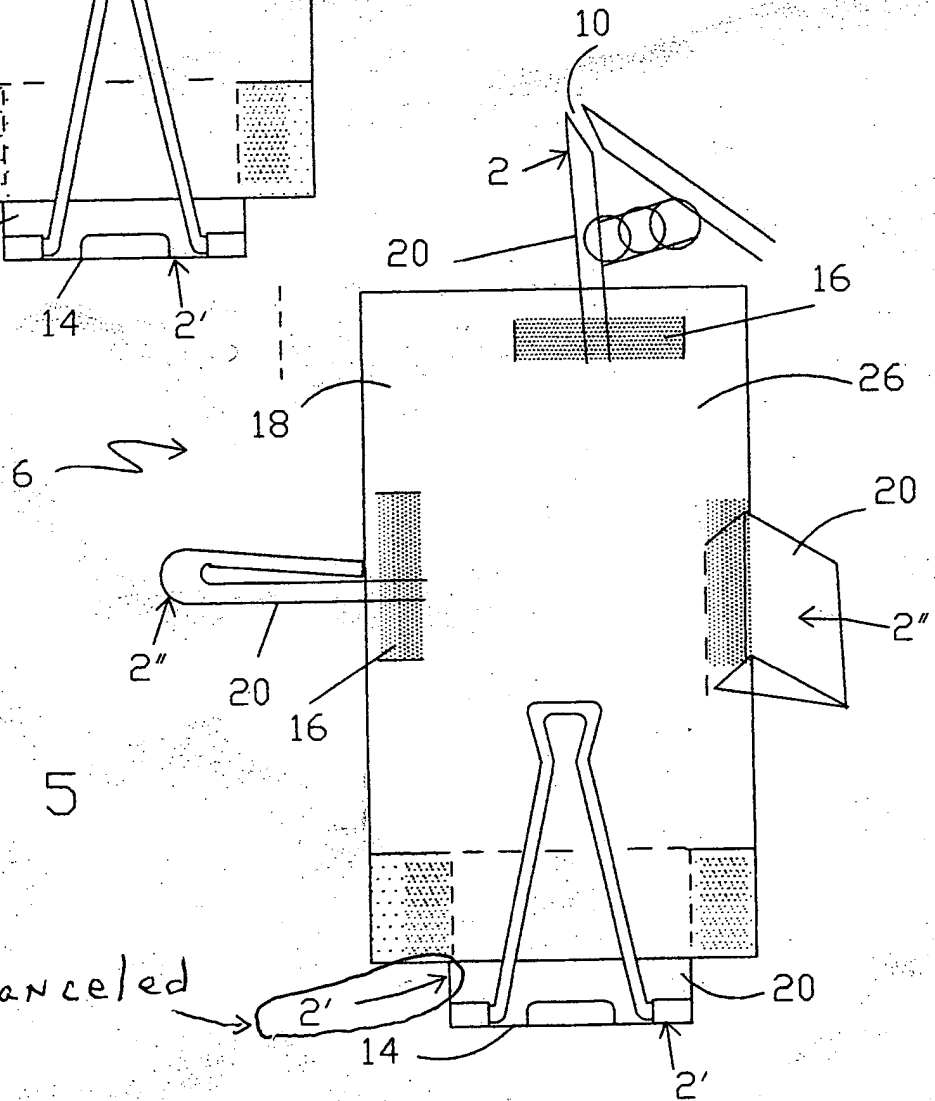


Fig. 5

canceled

Fig. 7

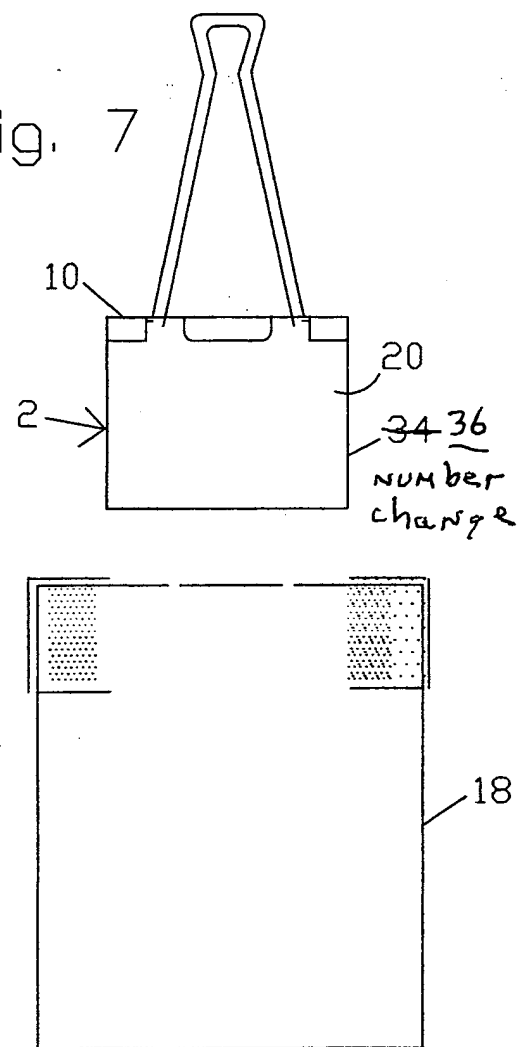


Fig. 8

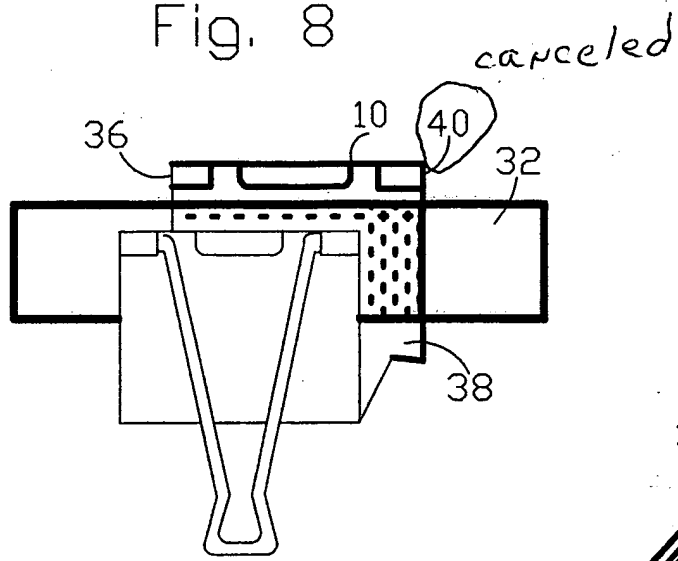
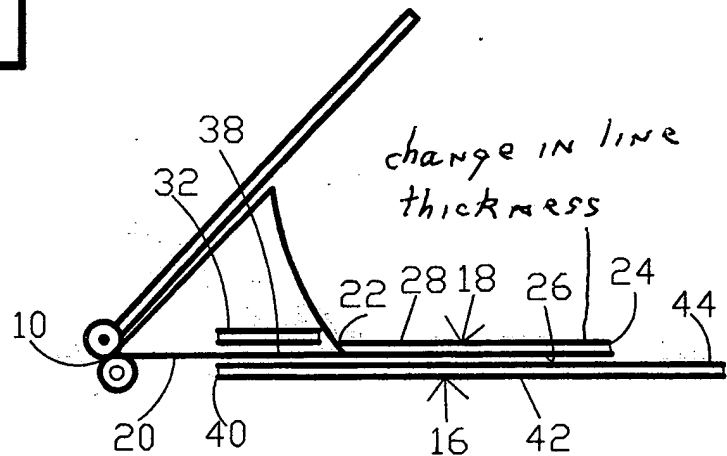


Fig. 9



Annotated sheet

Fig. 14

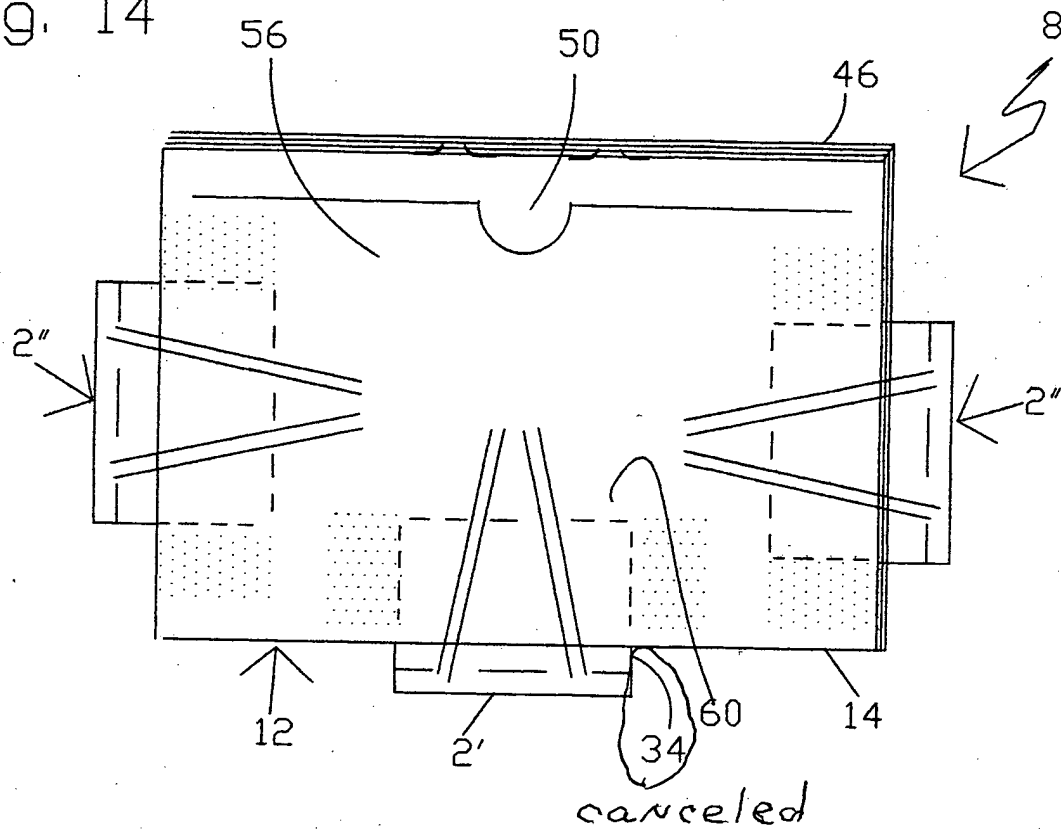
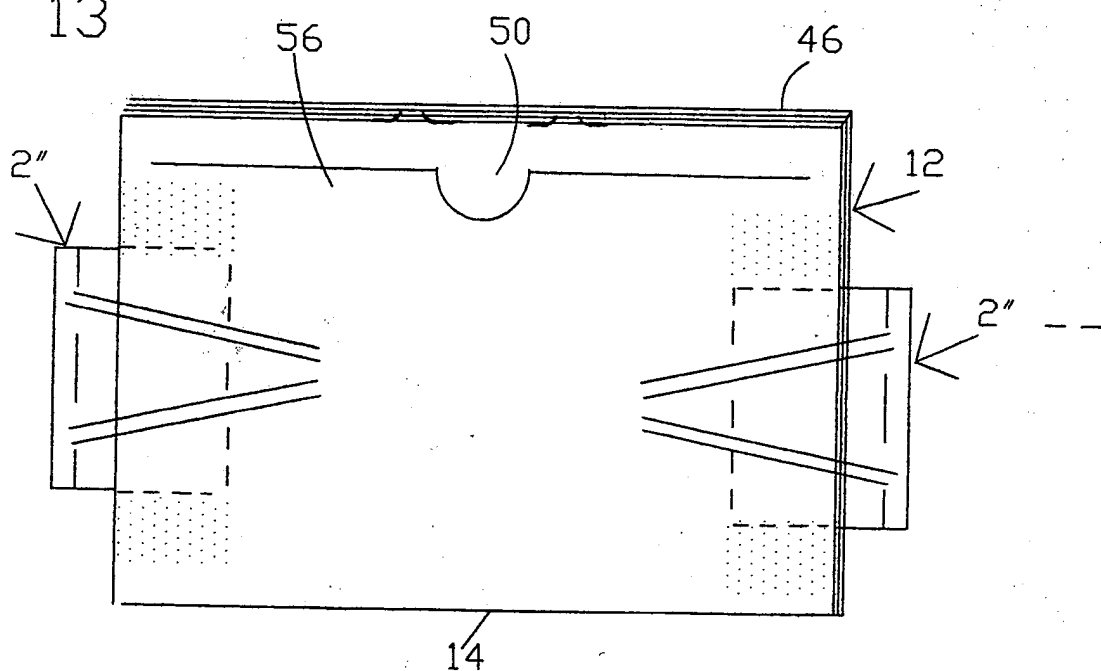



Fig. 13



16 



34

